ABSTRACT OF THE INVENTION

Methods and systems for providing an application programming interface (API) to the Simple Object Access Protocol (SOAP) are described. The API provides mechanisms for creating all parts of SOAP request messages, for sending the created messages over HTTP to a remote server, and, if the request is successful, for retrieving the response from the remote server, or, in the case of failure, for accessing whatever error information is available. The information passed through the API can be in the form of parameters which allows both the SOAP protocol and the applications that use it to change without requiring changes to the API itself.

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